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## **FRESH FACTS** IN A FEW LINES ITEMS OF INTEREST TO EVERYBODY Many Short Paragraphs Condensed for **Busy People**

To lessen the risk of disease orders have been given that all Egyptian pilgrims going to Mecca this year must accompany the holy carpet, which is sent from Calro to Mecca annually with a military escort. Doctors will travel with the pilgrims.

The snuff users of the United States have increased in number about 6 per cent a year for several years, taking the annual consumption of snuff as the basis of calculation. The aggregate weight of pinches of snuff taken last year was 18,000,000 pounds.

Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco refused to grant the petition of the ladies of the California club asking the appointment of a woman on the school board of the city. He says that such an appointment would be apt to create a spirit of unrest among the schoolteachers, many of whom are opposed to such an innovation.

An immense shark was caught lately by the marines of his majesty's guardship Urgent at Port Royal, Jamaica. It was so big that the most stalwart seaman aboard could have passed through its mouth without touching the teeth. No fewer than forty-nine young ones, all alive and kicking, were found in the monster's stomach.

A worthy successor to Musalino, the noted Sicilian brigand, now in prison, has arisen in the person of one Varsalona, whose fame even threatens to eclipse that of the other robber. Already 600 persons are waiting trial for aiding him in various ways, but Varsalona so far has succeeded in eluding officers sent to capture him.

The emperor of Germany is busy with a unique project that will be of value to the historical as well as the military world. Some time ago he dispatched Colonel Janke and Captains von Bismarck, Von Plessen and Von Marees to Asia Minor to make topographical studies and to draw up complete charts of the famous battlefields of Alexander the Great.

The old fashioned way of deciding a question by tossing up a coin is now superseded in England by an elegant pastime which is known as "tapnose." Two cabmen have the credit of making the new game public. Instead of "tossing for drinks" they set to work to spar. the man who first got in a tap on his

THE CITY OF MEKINEZ. One of the Royal Residences of the Sultan of Morocco There is no more interesting city in Morocco than Mekinez. Founded and built by Mulai Ismain, the tyrannical sultan who reigned through the middle of the eighteenth century, it still displays the extraordinary buildings which he caused to be erected, largely by the aid of Christian slaves. Today it is impossible even to guess the purposes for

which many of these masses of masonry were constructed. Walls of great thickness, some wide enough to drive a carriage and pair along, are met with in the most unexpected places, running here parallel, here at right angles to one another, and seeming as though built for no purpose except for the employment of the vast number of forced laborers that Mulai Ismain always kept at his court. Here and there are gateways of great beauty, such as the delicate tiled gate of "Mansur el-Alj," with its large marble columns and Corinthian capitals, supporting buttress of gray stone and arabesques, but on the whole it is rather the vastness of the buildings than any artistic value that is

emarkable. The old palaces of Mulai Ismain are in ruins todey, and each sultan in his turn has erected new residences till the imperial palace today consists of a collection of buildings of every shape and size, scattered among gardens inclosed by high walls. A tower, which was uncompleted at the time of the late sultan's death, remains today just as the workmen left it, with the scaffolding still standing. Adjoining the palace is a large park, in which are kept a number of mares, ostriches and gazelles.

The city itself is tolerably clean, and possesses no particular features that are not common to all Moorish towns. The entrance of the principal mosque is striking, with great b:onzed oors said to have been brought by the Moors from Spain. The shops are comparatively few, and the trade never large,-London Times.

## GOWN GOSSIP.

Very handsome Persian embroideries are imported that are designed to trim spring costumes of fine wool.

Double breasted fronts are characteristic of many of the walking jacket models for the coming season.

So great has been the demand for fur this winter that similar trimmings in short downy plumage or chenille will

be among the spring garnitures. Fashionable color combinations for delicate brocades, shot silks, trimmings and French millinery next season will be white and green, pink and green and gold, mauve and green. here.

For early spring costumes, where



## Given Same Consideration.

Washington, Jan. 31.-It developed today that the answers of the allied powers to Minister Bowen's latest roposition arrived here yesterday, but were not immediately presented to the minister. The answers were to the effect that the allies could not consent that the United States and the other claimant nations receive the same treatment as the blockading powers and that they therefore rejected in toto Mr. Bowen's final proposition. Knowing the consequences that were to follow the presentation of this answer, the representatives of the allies took upon themselves the responsibility of withholding the notes of their governments and of again cabling, urging a retraction of their preferential de-mand. Exchanges are still in prog-ress between the Italian, British and German embassies, but there is no evidence that the allies intend yield-

ing. If they hold out, their represen-tatives must present the joint refusal and the Washington negotiations will come to a standstill. Baron Sternburg, Germany's new envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States, conferred today with Count Quadt,

who, as charge de affaires, has thus far conducted the Venezuelan negotia-tions for Germany. Afterward the minister called by appointment at the state department and presented his

letters of credence to Secretary Hay and afterwards to the president. From the white house Baron Sternberg went to the British embassy. Baron Stern-berg, in his calls at the state department and the British embassy, found the outlook for a relief of the present deadlock exceedingly gloomy, and he has cabled as much to his government. During a call today of Mr. DeMar-

gerie upon Secretary Hay, the fact developed that the French charge de af-faires has received specific instructions from his government to insist that France shall not be discriminated against in the settlement of the Venezuelan claims. Having the personal assurance of Mr. Bowen that the Freach claims shall not be discriminated against, Mr. DeMargerie refrains at present from action, but as soon as he shall be assured by Mr. Bowen that the allies refuse to permit such treasment to the French claims as he expects, he will take steps to lodge a formal protest against the proposed discrimination and in so doing he expects to be joined by the representatives of the other claimant nations

THE LEGISLATURE Saturday's Session.

## Saturday, January 31.

HOUSE. In the house today, there was a dis-cusson of a bill to require clothing for county convicts, convicted of a misemeanor, to be different from that worn by felons and it was finally re-The bill prohibiting the sale of can-

non crackers and toy pistols was made a special order for Wednesday, not enough members being present to do the bill justice. Some protested against the custom

of going home and doing no work Sat-A bill passed chartering an electric railway between Durham and Chapel

SENATE.

A bill was introduced in the senate authorizing the removal of cases from mayors to magistrates. A bill to regulate the procuring and

distribution of dead bodies for dissec-tion was made a special order for Thursday. Bill to make drunkenness a misdeneanor with \$10 fine for the first of

ense and \$25 for each subsequent of fense, was lost, 6 to 28. A bill was introduced to create a

Ed Hanlon of the Brooklyn baseball team is having hard work to fill the place of Keeler.

Sheckard, the "champion human flea," has again escaped the blacklist and will be with Brooklyn.

G-orge Lixon, the former featherweight champion, is doing so well with his saloon in England that he has no thought of returning home.

Manager Watkins of the Indianapolis rlub has signed a new catcher, Robert Drury, who played with the Schenectady team of the New York State league last year.

James J. Corbett. who has played many parts sigce he left his desk in a California bank, will next season blossom out in an entirely new role, that of a minstrel performer.

Henry Fournier, the world's champion auto racer, says he is building a machine in Paris that will carry him a mile in 40 seconds. It is a long, narrow auto of 120 horsepower.

It is announced that the fan

INTENTIONS THAT COUNT. Only Those Put Into Practice Amount to Anything. The paving of the road to a very un-

comfortable place is said to be composed of good intentions. Nowhere else though it is plentiful enough for almost any purpose. We all know people whose houses burn when they are "just going to" insure, who lose a cow or a horse when they are "just going to" mend the fence or close the gate, who are "just going to" buy stock when it goes up like a rocket, who are "just going to" pay a note when it goes blew open his safe and secured \$250 to protest, who are "just going to" help in cash and a gold watch worth \$25. a neighbor when he dies, who are "just going to" send some flowers to a sick friend when it proves too late. In fact, and North Carolina Railroad Saturthey are "just going to" do things all their lives, but never get them started. "To be always intending to live a new life, but never to find time to set about it," says Tillotson, "is as if a man should put off eating and drinking until he is starved to death.'

Under every clock in a factory at Cleveland, O., is the motto, "Do it now!" Such a motto, lived up to by every one, would spare the world much trouble. It would add thousands of good deeds to daily happenings, save many firms from bankrupfey through bad debts, paint hundreds of pictures only dreamed of, write books without number and straighten out half the tangles of our complicated social life. The habit of putting off disagreeable duties is responsible for much needless unhappiness, for these bugbears weigh on the mind and prevent the satisfied content that comes from duty well performed. Most tasks promptly undertaken prove less difficult than we anticipated, and the joy of accomplishment often compensates for any hardship experienced.

Don't get to be known for unfulfilled good intentions. Good intentions carried out become the good deeds that make men useful, loved and famous. Doing things rather than just planning them makes all the difference between success and failure.-Success.

## SCIENCE NOTES.

A body weighing one pound on earth would weigh twenty-seven and a half pounds upon the sun.

The highest mountain in the moon is at least 35,000 feet in height; that is 6.000 feet higher than Mount Everest. Vanadium is a rare metal which oxidizes in air with great dificulty, melts at 2,000 degrees and becomes red hot in hydrogen.

Perfectly transparent bodies are only visible by virtue of nonuniform illumination, and in uniform illumination they become absolutely invisible.

OLD NORTH STATE **NEWS AND GOSSIP** has this .naterial been tried for paving. ODU AND INTERESTING HAPPENINGS. Clipped and Rehashed From Our North Carolina Exchanges.

> Burglars entered the store of Mr. W. G. Shoemaker, at Charlotte, Friday night while he was at church, and

Three freight cars and shanty were day afternoon. All traffic was delayed. Passengers, mail and baggage of mail train No. 3 were transferred and proceeded to Morehead City. The cause of the wreck is as yet unknown.

Rockingham Anglo-Saxon: Nine houses were destroyed by fire in Ham-let Tuesday night. The fire started in the old Freeman Hotel building, near Mr. J. B. Goodwin's store, and swept that row of houses, burning nine. We are unable to learn the value of the property; however, none were business houses.

Elizabeth City Tar Heel: Tom Crank's fish market is a curiosity shop where prodigies and monstrosities of the subterranean world are always found. One day he showed us a speckled perch weighing fourteen pounds. Last summer he exhibited a sun fish measuring three feet in length. His latest is a dozen full grown oysters embedded in a brick bat. They were alive and well the last time they were seen.

Whiteville News: Mr. W. T. Weaver, who until recently lived in this county, has just returned from attending his father's funeral in Harnett county. His father was born on January 22nd, 1799, and died January 12th, 1903; he lacked only ten days of being 104 years old, and had lived in three century's. During his young days he had a sweetheart a few days younger than he, who is still living and who attended his funeral.

Asheville: Copper has been dis-covered on the upper waters of Big Ivy creek and big mining enterprises to develop it are projected. Repre-sentatives of mining capitalists have been investigating the whole country through the mountains. Their pros-pecting has been carried on with great secrecy. They are satisfied with the character and quantity of ore to be found. It is certain at any rate that they have taken options on large quantities of land belonging to Big Ivy people.

Goldsboro Argus: An accident of a very distressing nature occurred Tuesday night about 9 o'clock at, the plant of the Southern Cotton Oil Mill in this city. Mr. H. E. King, the superintendent of the mill, had gone home and left the mill in the charge of his assistant, Mr. E. C. Denmark, who found it necessary to examine the gin on account of a slight irreg-ularity. While at work on the machine he got his right arm caught by the gin saws and had the flesh torn from his hand and arm. Medical aid was summoned and the young man is resting quietly today, but it is feared that the arm will have to be amputated. He is the son of Tax Collector Willis A. Denmark. Charlotte special to Raleigh Post: After waging an unequal struggle against death for two weeks, O. R. McLeod, of Lumberton, the North Carolina medical student, who, with his room-mate, J. M. Boyce, was infected with septaecama from dissecting a cadaver, succumbed this morning at 8 o'clock. McLeod had an abrasion on his hand, and through this the poison from the corpse was conveyed to his blood; blood poison developing in 24 hours. Every remedy known to medical science, including the now famous formalin treatment was tried but in vain. The remains of the deceased student reached Charlotte this afternoon. They will be taken through to his home tomorrow for interment. Troy Examiner: During the trial of Asa Morgan at Troy last week for the murder of Reger an account came out from admissions of the mother of the prisoner while she was on the stand that her husband was a Davis. whom she married many years ago. After having been married to Davis for a short while there was a trade or swap made by her husband with a man by the name of Morgan. The two men swapped wives without any other formalities further than an exchange. Mrs. Morgan, as she is called, is now an old woman and the mother of 12 children, four of whom were born since the exchange of wives by the two men. Since the killing of Reger a son of Mrs. Morgan was killed by John Richardson, it is alleged, in self-defense; and since the last term of Troy court John Richardson has married a daughter of Mrs. Morgan, a full sister of the young man, killed by him.

# State Historical Commission. SPORTING NOTES.

referred

opponent's nose being the winner and having his drink paid for by the loser.

The last official report of Consul Thomas Nast at Guyaquil before he was seized with fatal yellow fever is in answer to inquiries about opportunities for the practice of medicine in Equador. He gave the information that the profession is overcrowded and that a medical examination conducted in the Spanish language must be passed to obtain a license necessary to practicing there.

**Professor Eugene Ritter of Geneva** has written a book on two female an cestors of Rousseau, Mme. Bourgeols and Mme. Durant. Mme. Bourgeois was so quarrelsome and eccentric that when nearly sixty years old, she was brought before the courts, charged with being a witch, tortured and banished from Geneva. Mme. Durant maltreated her chambermaid, who thereupon committed suicide by jumping into the Rhone.

#### Australian Whaling.

Whaling is one of the vanished industries of Australia. In the thirties and forties it was a very remunerative business, but the whales were gradually frightened out of Australian waters and have now to be sought in the neighborhood of the south pole.

#### Won't Take Interest.

Mohammedan depositors in the post ffice savings banks are enriching the British government, as their religion forbids them to receive interest. They insist on taking out no more than they have put in.

#### Japan's Santa Claus.

Hotel is the name of the saint who acts as Santa Claus in Japan.

#### Dr. Cotton Mathem

Dr. Cotton Mather, who died in Bos ton in 1728, was the author of 382 works, some of them being of huge dimensions. The most bulky of his works contained seven large folio volumes. He died at the age of sixty-five.

One Minute Cough Cure gives relief in one minute, because it kills the microbe which tickles the mucous mem-brane, causing the cough, and at the same time clears the phlegm, draws out the inflammation and heals and soothes the affected parts. One Minute Cough Cure strengthens the lungs, wards off pneumonia and is a harmless and never failing cure in all curable cases of Coughs, Colds and Croup. One Minute Cough Cure is pleasant to take, harm-less and good alike for young and old. J. E. Hoo 1.

newer and more elaborate decoration than tucks or stitching is desired, some very handsome braid effects will be shown, the variety of designs of which will make it possible to please all tastes.

Three deep flounces extending from a few inches below the hips to the skirt hem is again among the favored modes of trimming. These flounces are bordered variously with rows of gimp, velvet or satin ribbon or with Post.

#### To Mend Gloves.

In mending gloves use fine cotton, a silk is far more apt to cut the kid. If the rent is in a seam, turn the glove inside out and sew it over and over. If the tear is in the glove, set a piece of kid under it and secure with a few stitches.

#### Army Surgeon.

The first mention of surgeons in the British army was in 1223. Edward I. army in Scotland in 1296.

#### The Gulf Stream.

The gulf stream is 200 fathoms deep off Cape Florida. Near Cape Hatteras the depth is only half as great, the stream appearing to have run uphill, with an ascent of ten inches to the mile.

## Cures Rheumatism and ( starrh-Medicine Sent Free.

These two diseases are the result of These two diseases are the result of an awful poisoned condition of the blood. If you have aching joints and back, shoulder blades, bones pains, crippled hands, legs or feet, swollen muscles, shifting, sharp biting pains, and that tired, discouraged feeling of rheumatism, or the hawking, spitting, blurred eyesight, deafness, sick stom-ach, headache, noises in the head, mucous throat discharges, decaying teeth, bad breath, belching gas of ca-tarrh, take Botanic Blood Baim (B. B. B.). It kills the poison in the B. B.). It kills the poison in the blood which causes these awful symp-blood which causes these awful symp-B. B., B. It kins the pursuit in the blood which causes these awful symp-toms, giving a pure, healthy blood supply to the joints and mucous mem-branes, and makes a perfect cure of the worst rheumatism or foulest ca-tarrh. Cures where all else fails. Blood Balm (B. B. B.) is composed of pure botanic ingredients, good for weak kidneys. Improves the digestion, cures dyspepsia. A perfect tonic for old folks by giving them new, rich pure blood. Thoroughly tested for thirty years. Druggists, 11 per large boitle, with complete directions for home cure. Sample free and prepaid by writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga. De-scribe trouble and special free medical will be advice sert in sealed letter.

Caracas, Jan. 31 .- All the newspapers of Caracas have published articles to the effect that the action of the allies in imposing upon Venezuela special preferential treatment in the settlement of their own claims is on a

par with all their previous acts since the beginning of the present difficulty, namely, unjust and unreasonable.

The correspondent of the Associated Press approached the members of the diplomatic corps here asking for their opinion on this phase of the matter. Two declined to speak, but a third was plain machine stitching .- New York willing to discuss the matter for publi-

cation provided his name was not used. He said: "The action of Great Britain, Germany and Italy in demanding an immediate cash payment for their claims arises from the fact that they know their claims are not well-founded My colleague, Mr. Hibbert, before his departure, presented claims to the Venezuelan government on behalf of Great Britain to the amount only of \$3,000. The remainder of Great Britain's claims against Venezuela is not known. What they may be is problematical. It must be remembered that schooners from the British island of had a pald surgeon accompanying his Trinidad have been assisting the Mato revolutionists as well as smuggling, and that these vessels have been right fully seized by Venezuela. Great Britain was sure before-hand that no tribunal would recognize certain of her claims and therefore she wanted

to force immediate payment. "Germany, for the same reason, does not desire that the Disconto-Gesselshaft loan scandal become known to the financial world. The Italians have no industrial enterprises in Venezuela. Italians here are mostly agri-cultural laborers, these undoubtedly have suffered, but they claim \$10 for the loss of a chicken and \$100 for the theft of a donkey. It can be seen why Italy does not wish to have her claims discussed by a tribunal and prefers force to reason."

There was much excitement among the foreigners here when it was re-ported that the allies proposed special ported that the allies proposed special treatment to secure the payment of their claims. Americans, Frenchmen and Spaniards met and protested against the carrying out of such an idea and cable messages were ad-dressed to the governments of the United States, France and Spain, ask-ing for protection for their several rights and that the claims of petition-ers be accorded treatment similar to that given to British, German and Italian claims.

A dose of Anway's Croup Syrup might save baby's life, if given at be-ginning of attack. Croup is danger-ous and Anway's is safe, safer to have a bottle in the house. Thousands use it and recommend it. Try it for baby's cough or cold. 25 cts., at J. E. Hood's drug store.

Ketcham farm, near Toledo, O., the home of Cresceus, Robert McGregor and other noted horses, has been purchased by Joe Caspar. a Toledo sporting man.

Asia.

Considerably more than half the population of the earth is in Asia, and yet there are but forty-eight people to the square mile as compared with ninetyfour in Europe.

#### Milk In Jamaica.

Jamaica has no milkmen. The milk is distributed by native women, who carry the cans nicely balanced on their heads.

#### Bacteria In Space.

The theory that there are small living bodies, as spores of bacteria and the like, floating about in interstellar space finds support in the observations and speculations of an increasing number of scientific men.

#### Philippine Snakes.

Above the length of nineteen or twenty feet snakes in the Philippine Islands increase greatly in bulk for every foot in length, so that a snake nineteen feet long looks small beside one twenty-two feet long.

### Sea Birds Act as Fog Signals.

The ries of sea birds, especially sea gulls, are very valuable as fog signals The birds cluster together on the cliffs and coast, and their cries warn boatmen that they are near land. Some years ago in the Isle of Man there was s fine for shooting such birds.

#### A Golden Lily.

The broken and distorted foot of a Chinese lady is called a "golden lily" by Chinese admirers of such distor tions.

#### Sheridan's Answer.

Sheridan, scholar, wit and spendthrift, being dunned by a tailor to pay at least the interest on his bill, answer ed that it was not his interest to pay the principal nor his principle to pay the interest.

A transit of Venus occurs only four times in 283 years. It is most important to astronomers because it gives them an opportunity of measuring the distance of the earth from the sun.

The sun and the earth are both practically spherical in shape, and the earth is evidently only a small, cooled off or frozen sun. The sun has a shell of glowing metallic clouds; the earth has a shell of solid opaque rocks and metals.

A Hard Hearted People.

Filial piety finds no place in Tibet an character. It is no uncommon thing for a son to turn his father, when too old for work, out of doors and to leave him to perish in the cold. The superstition that the souls of the dead can, if they will, haunt the living drives their hardened natures to gain by the exercise of crueity the promise of the dying that they will not return to earth.

As death approaches the dying person is asked, "Will you come back or will you not?" If he replies that he will, they pull a leather bag over his head and smother him; if he says be will not, he is allowed to die in peace. -Edinburgh Review.

#### Cromwell's Whim. In Cromwell's time no church service was permitted on Christmas day.

#### Monster Seaweeds.

Macricystis, a seaweed of the south Pacific, it is said, often grows to be 20 to 30 inches in diameter and 1,500 to 2.000 feet in length. In no case do any of these have roots in the proper sense, their nourishment being absorbed from the water by all parts alike.

#### Jews of Palestine.

The Jews of Palestine are entirely descended from Jews who returned to that hand from Europe. Most of them speak a corrupt form of the German

#### A Weak Stomach causes a weak body and invites disease. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure cures and strengthens the stomach, and wards off and overcomes disease. J. B. Taylor,

#### The Easy Pill,

DeWitt's Little Early Risers do not Ine Interest.
Fined For Not Going to Church.
To such an extent does religion prevail at Gonoaton, in the south seas that every man. woman and child or that Island who does not go to church the arrested and fined, the fine going to the king.
Fewer gallons; wears longer. Devoe.
and overcomes disease. J. B. Taylor, a prominent merchant of Chriesman, Tex., says: "I could not eat because of a weak stomach. I lost all strength and run down in weight. All that more that taland who does not go to church the strength and fined, the fine going to the stomach. Joseph and fined, the fine going to the king.
Fewer gallons; wears longer. Devoe. gripe nor weaken the system. They cure billousness, jaundice, contipation and inactive livers, by arousing the secretions, moving the bowels gently.

